

REMARKS

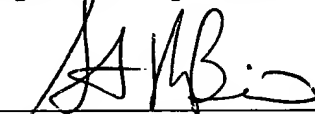
In the outstanding Official Action, claim 13 was indicated to be allowable, while claims 2-12, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scheraga, for the reasons of record. In response, claim 15 is herewith amended to more particularly and precisely define the present invention, and it is respectfully submitted that claim 15, as herein amended, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are now clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference for the reasons detailed below.

More particularly, claim 15 is herewith amended to add the limitation that the transistor current mirror comprises a plurality of pnp transistors connected in parallel on its output side. This arrangement, clearly shown in the single figure of the instant application at reference numeral 16, is respectfully submitted to be neither shown nor suggested by the cited and applied reference, which clearly shows only a single pnp transistor in the analogous portion of the cited circuit shown in fig. 3 of the reference. Furthermore, it is noted that the limitation added to claim 15 is similar in nature to the subject matter of claim 13 in that multiple transistors are recited, although no specific numbers of transistors are recited as in claim 13. In view of the fact that Scheraga neither shows nor suggests multiple pnp transistors at the

output side, and the instant specification clearly discloses that various gain factors (and accordingly various numbers of transistors) may be employed, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention should not be limited to a specific number of transistors as recited in claim 13, but rather that the additional recitation in claim 15, namely that a plurality of pnp transistors are connected in parallel on the output side of the pnp transistor current mirror, renders claim 15 likewise allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 15, as herein amended, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are clearly patentable distinguishable over the cited and applied reference. Accordingly, allowance of the instant application is respectfully submitted to be justified at this time, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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